

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 4, 8, 13, and 14. With respect to the Examiner's reasons for allowance, Applicants agree that the combination of features recited in these claims is patentable. To the extent that the Examiner's reasons for allowance/allowability are inconsistent with or add additional limitations to the claims, Applicants respectfully disagree because the claims define the invention.

Claims 1-16 are cancelled in favor of new claims 17-35. Claim 17 corresponds to original claim 1 and claim 2 with some changes to ensure consistency and to overcome the Examiner's antecedent basis concern regarding claim 2. Dependent claims 18-20 correspond to original claims 7-9. New claim 29 corresponds to original method claim 11. A new independent claim 21 includes the subject matter of original claims 1 and 3 and also specifies that the clock signal at the second level is detected. Since original claim 3 includes allowable subject matter, claims 21-26 should be allowed. Similarly, new independent method claim 31 includes the subject matter of original claims 11 and 13. Since original claim 13 includes allowable subject matter, claims 31-35 should also be allowed.

Claims 2-4 and 12-14 stand rejected for indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. New claim 17 incorporates the features of original claims 1 and 2, and the antecedent basis issue for claim 2 is also resolved. Claim 32 further defines claim 31 in the sense that it specifies the event that triggers when the holding and outputting steps of claim 31 are performed, i.e., when the switching signal is received. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Most of the original claims stand rejected for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 based on Heimann. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish that a claim is anticipated, the Examiner must point out where each and every limitation in the claim is found in a single prior art reference. *Scripps Clinic & Research Found. v. Genentec, Inc.*, 927 F.2d 1565 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Every limitation contained in the claims must be present in the reference, and if even one limitation is missing from the reference, then it does not anticipate the claim. *Kloster Speedsteel AB v. Crucible, Inc.*, 793 F.2d 1565 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Heimann fails to satisfy this rigorous standard.

Claims 17 and 29 recite that if the first clock signal is at a second level when the clock switching signal is received, the processor clock control device holds the clock signal output at this second level. Detecting the clock signal level at the occurrence of a particular event is not the same as detecting the transition of the signal from one level to another. In contrast, Heimann senses the transition of states rather than the occupation of a state to trigger its change. Moreover, Heimann relies on both clocks continuously running. If one clock is terminated, the switchover to the other clock is blocked. The claimed clocking switching approach is considerably more flexible, and by detecting occupation of a state, can switch clocks even when one clock becomes frozen.

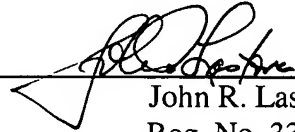
Lacking features recited in independent claims 17 and 29, the anticipation rejection based on Heimann should be withdrawn. The application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

- SLOBODNIK et al.
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Respectfully submitted,

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